

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 016661 TOSEC 010160

FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

FOL RPT LUXEMBOURG 68ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN DUBLIN LONDON PARIS ROME THE HAGUE ABU DHABI
ALGIERS AMMAN CAIRO DAMASCUS JIDDA RABAT TUNIS TEL AVIV
UN NEW YORK EC BRUSSELS NATO BRUSSELS DTD 21 JAN.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0068

E.O. 1652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, LU
SUBJ: DIALOGUE WITH EC PRESIDENCY - JANUARY 19-20 POLITICAL
DORECTOR MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG - EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE

REF: BRUSSELS 0426

1. MFA OFFICIAL WHO PARTICIPATED IN SUBJECT MEETING TOLD
CHARGE THAT MAIN DISCUSSION ON EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE CENTERED
ON TACTIC THE COMMUNITY HOPES WILL LAY TO REST ARAB
INSISTENCE ON INTRODUCING POLITICAL QUESTIONS. THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS AGREED THAT AT THE NEXT MEETING OF
THE GENERAL COMMISSION THE EUROPEAN CO-PRESIDENT WOULD
MAKE AN OPENING STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THE EC'S POLITI-
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CAL ATTITUDES ON THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS STATEMENT WILL

DESCRIBE THE OBJECT AND LIMITS OF THE DIALOGUE FROM THE EC POINT OF VIEW. IT WILL STRESS THAT THE OBJECT IS CONCRETE COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND OTHER FIELDS (BY OTHER FIELDS EDUCATION, CULTURE AND RELATED AREAS ARE IMPLIED). THE STATEMENT WILL UNDERSCORE THAT TWO SUBJECTS, (A) SOLUTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT AND (B) OIL ARE NOT IN THEIR VIEW GERMAINE TO THE DIALOGUE.

2. IN GENERAL TERMS THE STATEMENT WILL ACCENT ELEMENTS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO BOTH SIDES AND WILL BE DRAFTED IN ACCORD WITH TWO STRICT GUIDELINES. THE FIRST OF THESE IS THE CURRENT EC-NINE POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST AS SET FORTH IN PREVIOUS EC MIDDLE EAST DECLARATIONS AND IN POSITIONS THE NINE HAVE TAKEN IN COMMON AT THE UN. THE SECOND GUIDELINE IS THAT THE STATEMENT REFLECT THE CURRENT STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND ARAB STATES AS EMBODIED IN THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE MAGHREB COUNTRIES AND IN PROSPECTS FOR SUCH AGREEMENTS WITH THE MASHREK COUNTRIES.

3. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ALSO DECIDED THAT IF THE ARAB CO-PRESIDENT'S SPEECH REACTING TO THE EUROPEAN STATEMENT REQUIRES A REBUTTAL, THE EUROPEAN CO-PRESIDENT WILL MAKE A SECOND, FACTUAL, CORRECTIVE STATEMENT RE-ITERATING IN CLEAR TERMS THE EC'S BASIC POSITION.

4. THE EUROPEAN STATEMENT WILL INCLUDE LANGUAGE WHICH MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THE EUROPEAN SIDE IS NOT PREPARED TO GO FURTHER THAN ITS INITIAL STATEMENT IN DISCUSSING POLITICAL ISSUES WITH THE ARAB SIDE. IT WILL ALSO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE EC HAS NOT CHANGED ITS POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE PREVIOUS DECLARATIONS AND THAT IT HAS NO INTENTION OF DOING SO AS A RESULT OF, OR IN THE CONTEXT OF, THE EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE.

5. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS CHARGED THE EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE EXPERTS GROUP WITH DRAFTING THE STATEMENT AND ALSO PREPARING A LIST OF SHORT AND LONG TERM PROJECTS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL COMMISSION. THE DIRECTORS

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WANT THE LIST OF PROJECTS TO UNDERSCORE THE CONCRETE, TANGIBLE ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL RESULTS THEY HOPE WILL RESULT FROM THE DIALOGUE. TO FURTHER UNDERSCORE THE CONCRETE (READ NON-POLITICAL) NATURE OF THE DIALOGUE, THE EUROPEANS WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE SEVEN WORKING GROUPS PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL COMMISSION. PHILLIPS

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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